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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA

Modernization of Educational Methods
(CPR/79/003)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	February 1980
Starting date of project activities:	January 1980
Planned completion date:	July 1982
To be executed by:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Education
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$999 600
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. China attaches great importance to producing the number of professional and technical personnel required to implement the Four Modernizations Programme. To this end, it is essential to make greater use of modern audio-visual media, to develop computer-assisted instruction, and also to improve laboratory demonstration equipment.

2. Research in modern educational media and methods has been listed as one of the major national scientific projects of China. In order to develop new educational media and methods, the Research Institute of Modern Educational Techniques (RIMET) has been established in Beijing Normal University (BNU). However, since it lacks modern equipment and staff trained in its use, it is difficult for the Institute to extend its research and train technical personnel. There is, more generally, an urgent need to introduce and develop advanced educational techniques and equipment as a basis for the long term improvement of the educational methods and system used in China's educational establishments and schools.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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II. Objectives and activities

3. The objectives of this project are to: (a) develop new educational media and methods in BNU and use them experimentally in three secondary schools attached to BNU; (b) upgrade the level of competence of the staff of BNU in computer science, TV video-recording technology, computer-assisted instruction and educational satellite-receiving techniques; and (c) improve the teaching methods at Beijing Experimental Secondary School (BESS) and certain similar schools.

III. Inputs

4. UNDP will provide, through the UNESCO, for the services of consultants in new educational methods, TV system techniques for education, and educational satellite-receiving techniques; fellowships and study tours in application of computers to education and educational satellite receiving techniques; equipment for language laboratories and modern educational methods; and miscellaneous.

5. The Government will provide national staff for the project, a building of 7,170 square meters specially designed for the Institute, and equipment.

IV. Financial data

6. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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Personnel	45 100
Training	403 000
Equipment	550 000
Miscellaneous	1 500
	999 600

7. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of the inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $14,875,400 in kind.

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